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SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
DEC 12 PM 12:00

December 12, 2005

2005-387-E

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
South Carolina Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Petition of the Office of Regulatory Staff to Establish Dockets to Consider Implementing the Requirements of: Section 1254 (Interconnection) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005
PSC Docket No.:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and fifteen (15) copies of the Petition of the Office of Regulatory Staff to Establish Dockets to Consider Implementing the Requirements of: Section 1254 (Interconnection) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Please date stamp the one extra copy for our office and return it to me via our courier.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nanette S. Edwards

NSE/pjm
Enclosures

**BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

In Re: Petition to Establish Docket to)	
Consider Implementing the)	
Requirements Of:)	
)	
Section 1254 (Interconnection) of the)	Docket No. _____
Energy Policy Act of 2005)	

**PETITION TO ESTABLISH DOCKET TO FULFILL THE STATE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005**

The Office of Regulatory Staff, (“ORS”), pursuant to S.C. Code Regs. 103-836, respectfully requests that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the “Commission”) convene a docketed proceeding to consider and, if appropriate, implement Section 1254 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, (“EPAct”). S.C. Code Regs. 103-836, provides that petitions for relief may be filed with the Commission. In support of this Petition, ORS states as follows:

PARTIES

1. The Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) is a state agency charged by law with the duty to represent the public interest of South Carolina pursuant to S.C. Code § 58-4-10 (B) (added by Act 175). S.C. Code § 58-4-10(B)(1) through (3) read in part as follows:

...’public interest’ means a balancing of the following:

- (1) concerns of the using and consuming public with respect to public utility services, regardless of the class of customer;
- (2) economic development and job attraction and retention in South Carolina; and
- (3) preservation of the financial integrity of the state’s public utilities and continued investment in and maintenance of utility facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality utility services.

2. The authorized representatives for ORS for this proceeding are:

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Pleadings, briefs, correspondence, and other documents in this proceeding should be served upon the authorized representatives.

DISCUSSION

3. On August 8, 2005, President Bush signed the EPAct. The EPAct requires state commissions, with respect to each electric utility for which the state commission has ratemaking authority to consider certain standards to encourage better utilization of energy resources.

4. Section 1254 of the EPAct requires each electric utility to make interconnection service available, upon request, to any electric consumer that the electric utility serves. Interconnection services are to be based on the standards developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), as they may be amended from time to time. Specifically, the EPAct references IEEE Standard 1547 for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric

Power Systems. In addition, Section 1254 of the EPAct requires that agreements and procedures be established such that the services offered promote the current best practices of interconnection for distributed generation, including but not limited to practices stipulated in model codes adopted by associations of state regulatory agencies. Within one year of enactment (by August 8, 2006) states must begin to consider what standards will be required for this type of interconnection and must conclude consideration within two years of enactment (by August 8, 2007). If the Commission (or the state legislature) has already implemented or considered implementing the same or similar standard, then no action is required of the Commission.

5. While this Commission has addressed issues such as interconnection equipment involving Qualifying Facilities (“QF’s”) in Docket No. 80-251-E, Order No. 85-347 released August 2, 1985, ORS recommends that the Commission open a docket to review any existing interconnection service requirements in light of Section 1254 and to solicit comments as to whether new rules or regulations should be adopted to fulfill the requirements of Section 1254.

6. Congress designated this Commission as the authority required to consider whether to implement these standards for those utilities over which the Commission has ratemaking authority. ORS recommends that this Commission establish a docket to address ‘Interconnection Services’ pursuant to Section 1254 of the EPAct.

CONCLUSION

7. ORS respectfully requests that the Commission initiate a proceeding consistent with Section 1254 of the EPAct for those utilities over which this Commission has ratemaking authority. Additionally, ORS requests that the Commission issue a procedural order and solicit comments regarding Section 1254 of the EPAct.

Submitted this 12th day of December, 2005

OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nanette Edwards", is written over a horizontal line.

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